

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action mailed on September 4, 2007. This response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 7 and 13-14 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Examiner states it is not clear what the second portion is connected to. Claim 4 has been cancelled, but the amendment to claim 1 makes clear that the processor is connected to the second optical waveguide.

Claims 1-2 (*sic* – but claim 2 was cancelled), 4-10 and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shain et al (US 6027349), Douglas et al (US 5951492), Moerman et al (US 6706159) or Stiene et al. (US 2004/0096959) in view of Eason et al (5186897).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Even by combining all of the cited art, there is no teaching for the novel structure of the instant invention wherein two optical waveguides are used, each in a separate housing, and are connected by mating optical connectors. One optical waveguide is connected to the processor and the other to the optical sensor. Claim 1 has been amended to emphasize this novel structure. Claim 4 has been cancelled for being extraneous in light of the amendment to claim 1. Claim 15 has been added and is also deemed patentable over the art.

Accordingly, claims 1, 5-10 and 12-15 are respectfully deemed allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,  
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